

Amendment

Reply to Office Action dated September 12, 2006

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments and these remarks are in response to the Office Action dated September 12, 2006. This amendment is timely filed.

At the time of the Office Action, claims 1-20 were pending. In the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 4 and 6-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Claims 2, 5 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claims 11-20 were indicated to be allowed. Claims 1-10 are cancelled herein.

New claim 21 is added herein, which is dependent upon allowed claim 11, and which finds support in the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 in the application as filed. This claim is dependent upon an allowable base claim, and is also believed to be allowable. Accordingly, prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is requested.

Applicants have made every effort to present claims which comply with the written description requirement and it is thus believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. Nevertheless, Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance. In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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